

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
DECEMBER 14, 2015
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2015-1124
4609 AVENUE G**

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1926 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, front-gabled frame house with synthetic siding; partial-width, front-gabled projecting bay contains the principal entry and one window; partial-width shed-roofed hood over the principal entry; single and paired 4:4 fenestration.

RESEARCH

The house appears to have been built around 1926. The first owners and occupants were Thomas J. and Myrtle Harwell, who lived here until around 1928. Harwell was a furniture salesman. The house was then next owned by Carl F. and Ida Belle Williams, who lived here from around 1930 to around 1932. Carl F. Williams was a shipping clerk at Swift and Company, a wholesale meat packer in downtown Austin. He later became a foreman there.

The house was a rental property from around 1932 to around 1946. Tenants included an appliance serviceman and a grocery store clerk. Around 1946, the house was purchased by Allen V.K. and Lucy Gillespie, who had previously lived next door at 4607 Avenue G. Gillespie was a retired proprietor of a meat market. After his death, Lucy Gillespie continued to live here until around 1960. The house has been a rental property since that time, with tenants including retired people, an IRS employee, and a technician for the U.S.D.A. Veterinary Services Division.

STAFF COMMENTS

The house is beyond the bounds of any City survey.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive re-use, but release the permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package, consisting of photographs of all elevations, a dimensioned sketch plan, and a narrative history, for archiving at the Austin History Center. The house has neither the architectural nor the historical significance to warrant individual designation as a historic landmark.

LOCATION MAP



-  N
-  SUBJECT TRACT
-  PENDING CASE
-  ZONING BOUNDARY

NOTIFICATIONS

CASE#: HDP-2015-1124
4609 AVENUE G



1" = 233'

This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries.

This product has been produced by CTM for the sole purpose of geographic reference. No warranty is made by the City of Austin regarding specific accuracy or completeness.

4609 Avenue G
ca. 1926



OCCUPANCY HISTORY
4609 Avenue G

City Directory Research, Austin History Center
By City Historic Preservation Office
December, 2015

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 1992 | J. Lind Mayles, renter
Accounting tech, U.S.D.A. Veterinary Services |
| 1985-86 | J. Lind Mayles, renter
Accounting tech, U.S.D.A. Veterinary Services |
| 1981 | Linda Mayles, renter
Employed by the IRS
NOTE: The directory indicates that Linda Mayles was a new resident at this address. |
| 1977 | Emma L. Felder, renter
Widow, Herman G. Felder
Retired |
| 1973 | Emma L. Felder, renter
Widow, Herman G. Felder
Retired |
| 1968 | Herman G. and Emma Felder, renters |

Retired

- 1962 A.R. and Ruby D. Owen, renters
No occupation listed
NOTE: Herman G. and Emma Felder are not listed in the directory.
- 1959 Lucy Gillespie, owner
Widow, A.B.K. Gillespie
No occupation listed
- 1955 Lucy Gillespie, owner
Widow, A.V.K. Gillespie
No occupation listed
- 1952 Allen V.K. and Lucy Gillespie, owners
No occupation listed
- 1949 Allen V.K. and Lucy Gillespie, owners
No occupation listed
- 1947 Charles F. and Olive D. Cockrum, renters
Mechanic, Burnette's Garage, 1702 San Jacinto Boulevard.
NOTE: Allen V.K. and Lucy Gillespie are listed at 4607 Avenue G; he was the manager of the Joseph C. Franzetti Meat Market, groceries, 1601 E. 6th Street.
- 1944-45 Ruth Jenkins, owner
Proprietor, Ruth's Café, 1303 Lavaca Street.
- 1941 Hugh E. and Ruth Gaines, renters
No occupation listed
- 1939 William J. Wamsley, renter
There is no listing for a William J. Wamsley in the alphabetical section of the directory.
- 1937 Vacant
- 1935 Robert and Ruth Rosenberger, renters
Serviceman, Newt Brunson, appliances, 813 Congress Avenue.
- 1932-33 Roy H. and Vivian Johnson, renters
Clerk, Piggly Wiggly No. 4, groceries, 921-23 Congress Avenue.
- 1930-31 Carl F. and Ida B. Williams, owners
Assistant shipping clerk, Swift & Company, wholesale meats, 311 Congress Avenue.
- 1929 Vacant
- 1927 Thomas J. and Myrtle Harwell, owners
No occupation listed
- 1924 The address is not listed in the directory.

NOTE: Thomas and Myrtle Harwell are listed at 704 Henderson Street; he was the assistant manager of Wilson & Shaw Furniture, 212 E. 6th Street.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:

Thomas J. and Myrtle Harwell (ca. 1926 – ca. 1927)

T.J. and Myrtle Harwell are listed in the 1920 U.S. Census as the renters of the house at 1117 W. 9th Street in Austin. T.J. Harwell was 28, had been born in Texas, and was a furniture salesman at a furniture store. Myrtle Harwell was 28, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had 2 sons: T.J., Jr., 2; and Walter, 8 months.

T.J. Harwell died of tuberculosis in 1927. His death certificate shows that he was a book-keeper. He had been born in San Antonio, and was living at this house at the time of his death.

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Myrtle Harwell as a 47-year old divorcee living at 2200 Nueces Street, a house she owned. She was the housemother for a rooming house. With her lived her son, T.J., 22, a food checker for a hotel.

Carl F. and Ida B. Williams (ca. 1930 – ca. 1932)

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Carl F. and Ida B. Williams as the owners of this house, which was worth \$1,500. Carl F. Williams was 25, had been born in Texas, and was a shipping clerk for a wholesale meat company. Ida B. Williams was 20, had been born in Arkansas, and had no occupation listed. They had a son, Clarence B., 2.

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Carl F. and Ida Belle Williams as the owners of the house at 920 E. 46th Street. Carl F. Williams was 36, and was the superintendent of wholesale meat packing company. Ida Belle Williams was 30, and had no occupation listed. Their son, Clarence, was 12. They also had a daughter, Billie Jean, 9. The household also included an aunt, Johnny Denison, a 43-year old Texas-born widow who had lived in San Antonio in 1935; and Johnny's daughter, Doris Jo Denison, 19, who was a waitress in a café. She had also lived in San Antonio in 1935.

Hugh and Ruth Gaines (ca. 1940 – ca. 1943)

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Hugh and Ruth L. Gaines as the renters of the house at 4502 Avenue D in Austin. Hugh Gaines was 30, had been born in Texas, and was an oiler and rigger for a construction company. Ruth L. Gaines was 29, had been born in Oklahoma, and had no occupation listed. They had a daughter, Alyce, 3, who had been born in Nevada. They had lived in Boulder City, Clark County, Nevada in 1935.

Allen V.K. and Lucy Gillespie (ca. 1948 – ca. 1960)

The 1930 U.S. Census shows A.V.K. and Lucy Gillespie as the owners of the house at 4402 Avenue F in Austin; their house was worth \$3,000. A.V.K. Gillespie was 57, had been born in Mississippi, and was the proprietor of a retail meat market. Lucy Gillespie was 52, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. With them lived a niece, Myra Murdock, 13, who had been born in Mississippi; and Lucy's brother, James E. Robertson, a 36-year old Texas-born widower who was an oil well driller.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows A.V.K. and Lucy E. Gillespie as the renters of a house at what looks to be 2614 Wichita Street in Austin. A.V.K. Gillespie was a 46-year old laborer at the cotton gin. Lucy Gillespie was 42 and had no occupation listed. They had 4 children listed: Floella, 19; Ruby, 16; George, 12; and Allen, 8. All of the children had been born in New Mexico.

Lucy Gillespie's 1970 death certificate shows that she was living in Buda, Texas at the time of her death at the age of 92. She was a widowed housewife who had been born in Texas.